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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Sabak NEMATI

Serial No.: 09/777,640

Filed: 7 February 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS TO
ENHANCE OPTICAL TRANSPARENCY OF
BIOLOGICAL TISSUES

Art Unit: 3763

Examiner: M. Hayes

Atty. Docket: P66960US2

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Official Action mailed 1 October 2002, the response to which was set to expire on 1 January 2003. A Petition for an Extension of Time for two months under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and the appropriate fee has been filed to extend the due date for responding to the Official Action to 1 March 2003. The pending claims, claims 37-69, were rejected. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

AMENDMENT

In the claims:

Please amend claim 37 as follows:

37. (Amended) Apparatus for enhancing the optical transparency of biological tissue covered by a surface permeability barrier of tissue which comprises in one apparatus:
- a) means for bypassing said surface permeability barrier of tissue to permit the delivery of a clarifying agent past said surface permeability barrier of tissue to said covered biological tissue,
 - b) means for delivering said clarifying agent past said surface permeability barrier of tissue to said covered biological tissue to enhance optical transparency thereof,
 - c) means for delivery of light to, and/or collection of light from said covered biological tissue for diagnostic or therapeutic applications.